

- I was disappointed with the DPW this year. I reported water standing in front of my extra lot. No one checked it out. The street is low and needs repair. I was also disappointed that they did not follow through with a complaint regarding trees and weeds growing between my next door neighbor's garage and the fence. He cleaned up part of it but the rest is still there. Where is the environmental department? This was reported to the Ombudsman's Office, as well as to the DPW.
- I love the City of Detroit. I was born and raised here and raised my three children here. It is sad to see how some areas of the City have gone down. Even the buildings on Belle Isle that should be torn down are still there as an eyesore. Also, the Rouge Park restrooms should be torn down. They are not useable and are dangerous for people and children and are places drug pushers could use. There is a lot to do to make this City a place of pride again.
- Everything was taken out of our small neighborhood so our kids have nothing to do but hang on the street. There is a block sitting there that could be fixed for the kids but the City does nothing with it. The weeds are so tall. Everything is being put on the east side of the City but what about the southwest side? The empowerment zone stopped less than a half of mile from us. We are like a forgotten community.
- I cannot volunteer for anything because of my health and age.
- In Sherwood Forest we are faced with a great increase of what appears to be homeless people and with this an increase in breakins. I feel it necessary to arm my home, because there is not enough patrolling by the police in our neighborhood. The City must change it's laws to meet its needs. Store and other business owners must be responsible for their property to keep it free of trash and weeds. We should inquire how other communities enforce the laws about property maintenance. For example, Birmingham, Bloomfield, and even Ferndale work hard at upgrading their look. We need to treat Belle Isle like a Metro Park and pay a fee for entering to cover the cost of patrols.
- We live in the 9th precinct. We need more police and fireman plus their equipment. There is too much running of red lights in my area. People are always speeding on residential streets and on the City's expressways. In my neighborhood, people don't respect others, concerning noise from radios, cars racing on side streets, loud parties and music, and throwing papers, etc. on streets and yards. Don't we care enough to keep litter picked up ourselves?
- I moved to Detroit two and one-half years ago. My husband is from here. I am from Mobile, Alabama. To be honest, I have never seen a City this bad in my life! As soon as my husband graduates in 2002, we are moving. Instead of improving, I've only seen things get worse. Our streetlight was out for a solid month. I had to call everybody before someone came to fix it. My complaint list goes on and on. I am very disappointed with the City. I really feel sorry for the people of Detroit.
- The survey seems to be adequate, but being a senior citizen and handicapped I don't get out much, so I just gave my opinion on some of the questions.
- I hope this survey improves our City of Detroit. The streets need to be swept a least once each week. Trees need to be trimmed. Give residents tickets if they don't cut their lawns. When bulk trash is picked up please remove all of the debris.

- We're on the border line of Detroit and Lincoln Park. So we're not close to any City hall or near downtown.
- I'm an African American who has lived in this City all 57 years of my life. Every election I've voted for my people, but no more. After thirty years nothing. Whenever I talk to people from other states about our City, the only thing good I can tell them is that of all the City leaders, the only one who has tried to do something for the people of Detroit, is a very sweet little lady named Mary Ann. The rest of us could learn a lot from this beautiful woman. Keep on keeping on Mrs. Mahaffey. May God bless you and keep you.
- I wish and pray that whoever makes the decision to tear down abandoned homes, develops a program to save some or all them. Every home torn down effects our tax base. Less taxes coming in means less services. Wake up to this problem.
- I am handicapped and have requested a handicapped sign for the front of my home. I have provided the City with all the necessary information and have waited six months already, with no response. My son is also handicapped. I am very displeased about this. If you can help, I would appreciate it.
- We are finally beginning to hear about improving basic City services and efforts for improving the neighborhoods. This after almost three decades of denial about these things and the fostering of the illusion that pumping money into downtown and downtown area projects will somehow trickle down to the neighborhoods. Hopefully, the politicians are serious about these things and not just posturing.
- Make our neighborhood City halls more community run, to enable people to feel more like a part of the process, like they really count, and what they think and feel counts. Our City officials sometimes make us feel like we don't matter. They are so inaccessible, especially our City Council.
- The Detroit Housing Commission (DHC) needs overseers to ensure the funds they receive are used to fix up low income housing. The DHC is too busy selling to privately owned management companies that chase away low income tenants. Yet, there will always be low income tenants. Where does the DHC expect them (i.e., us) to live? No wonder, the government is still building prisons.
- The City of Detroit is in need of great improvement.
- The quality of life in Detroit receives a negative rating not from the City administration but from society in general.
- Detroit needs more road work, vacant houses torn down, and new houses built with the tax dollars, instead of giving to people that don't try to get jobs.
- I think all streets surrounding schools should be one way for the safety of the children. Traffic at Bennet Elementary on Mullane is very unsafe for the students and parents. As for our City parks, once the drugs, prostitution, and bums are out of them, we could clean them for the children as they were intended.
- I have been blessed not having to use some of the City's services, so I could not answer the survey's questions relating to those services. Detroit, to me, is the best city in the U.S., so please use resources to bring it back. Rebuild the neighborhoods that have been demolished.

- Concerning the question about whether I feel safe in my neighborhood day or night – I feel safe because I'm very well known in my neighborhood. I'm ready to leave Detroit so my opinion on some things are different. I wish we had a place for the children to play indoors within walking distance. There is no park or recreation center in this area, in walking distance anyway. I want to see a place where people can take plastic bottles, glass, and cans for recycling. However, I can't fight this battle alone, and I have no help from the people who need it the most. So, I got to go, bye.
- I really appreciate being a part of this survey. I really hope that more safety can come to the neighborhoods.
- I think that the City should try to concentrate more on neighborhood development and safety. The City should also clean, maintain, and patrol the neighborhoods, and not just downtown, the cultural center, and the high income neighborhoods.
- Advertise or make known through the neighborhoods, the various services, programs, and activities that are available at fire stations and recreation centers. We can't take advantage of an outreach program if we don't know it's there for us. Volunteering to maintain a vacant lot is not a problem but these lots should be fenced in and police patrols of the neighborhood should be more frequent. Police should be more visible. The survey questions were answered with respect to the neighborhood I just moved from, not the one I live in now, although I haven't seen any police around here. There are no parks, fire stations, outreach programs, etc. nearby, in either area in 3 or 4 that offer services.
- Detroit is a great place to live but something must be done to improve our quality of life. The parks, recreation centers, cultural events, shopping, police protection, abandoned housing, etc. need to be addressed by the City.
- The last three questions in the survey are personal.
- Hope these remarks come to some value that can help me, and I see and know about the improvements soon. Thank you.
- I am a shut-in and don't travel much, only by the senior pick up for the doctor.
- Part two of question 4 in the survey, we have been doing this for the past ten years, that is keeping vacant lots clean and cutting the grass, etc. We are also doing those things referred to in part three of question 4. We have put more effort into part three rather than part two. Thank you, and hope to see some improvement very soon.
- Detroit needs to improve the traffic flow in the City. We need turn lights at Joy and Evergreen, Joy and Greenfield, and Evergreen and Plymouth. We need to fine people for putting bulk trash out too early. Our freeways need to improve. The I-96 freeway is bad, very bad. I have been trying to get stop signs on Capital and Burt Road to no avail. Where are my tax dollars going?

- The City's publicity needs to improve. We never hear any good things about Detroit. Many people don't know about what the City has to offer. They are not aware of how to report problems to the proper authority. For example, during a storm the wires behind my house were on fire and I called 911 and was told to call the Fire Department. I then called the Fire Department and was told to call Edison. I called Edison and had to push so many numbers and listen to several recordings to get a response. Imagine my frustration. On top of this, I was on my cell phone that wasn't fully charged. We were the last to have electrical power restored in our neighborhood. Also, I would like to know who to call when the neighbors put bulk trash out the day after bulk pickup.
- Detroit is a city on its way back but in order to be a truly world-class city, it will have to do something about its neighborhoods. There are entirely too many hair and nail salons, liquor stores, and cell phone/pager stores. If there were more book and art stores, and a better variety of places to go to and/or things to see and do, there would be a more diverse group of people in the City. The only way a City can be world-class is to have things that represent more than one type of people.
- I am not aware of most services mentioned in the survey. The City needs to keep the public informed of what is available to homeowners or residents. There is a vacant lot next door to a property I own (not my residence) and it is not kept up. I have gotten the run around about purchasing the property. If I could purchase the lot, I would keep it clean and cut the grass. The City needs to crack down on illegal drugs. I am afraid to go out at night, especially alone.
- In comparison to areas of the City where housing and environmental elements suggest people of means live, the lower eastside of Detroit (i.e., southeast) is grossly neglected by the City's service workers. The property taxes paid by homeowners in our area are counted in the City's financial records the same as everyone else's. Then, why are eastsiders so neglected? There is little or no tree trimming, and garbage dropped when dumped into the truck is left for the occupants of the property to cleanup. It's tough living in Detroit, sometimes.
- I have only lived in the Neighborhood City Hall region 9 since 1999. I lived in region 6 for 35 years. Patton Park is right behind the building where I live.
- There are a many empty lots in this City that are owned by private citizens, and these people expect the City to maintain them. I think that the people that buy these lots should cut the grass and keep them clean, whether the lots are fenced or not. Don't expect the City to do it all. If such lots are not properly maintained, the City should impose a high enough fine so that people will think before purchasing vacant lots.
- Clark Park is our best neighborhood park and recreation center because of the Clark Park Coalition. The City's planning and real estate units are ineffective. The Buildings and Safety Engineering Department is ineffective. It provides no code enforcement, no "Design" guidelines for commercial or residential rehab or new construction, awnings and signage, or fencing installations, and no true land use planning. There is no retail shopping in neighborhoods or downtown. City departments are ineffective in attracting and working with private developers to bring new retail and housing developments to the neighborhoods let alone the downtown area, aside from a few high-profile projects that are driven by Illitch, Ford, Karmanos, or GM. Thank goodness for the nonprofit groups working in their respective neighborhoods on redevelopment.

- Questions not answered, means improvements are needed. My vision is a more beautiful Detroit.
- The City could do better with the services it provides to the public. Taxes are too high for the poor service we receive in many areas.
- We need a program to promote business ventures and start-ups, so Detroit can grow again. I am an engineer and every company I have worked for was in Detroit, and now all are gone.
- The City Administration promises a lot, but delivers little. Some City Council members are very arrogant and try to play television stars on the Council's telecast.
- I hope my response will be helpful.
- In response to survey question 4, I am a handicapped senior citizen and would find it difficult to assist.
- I would like to respond but not for public eyes. They would destroy the survey sheet before it reached you. Then my beliefs would be gone with the wind.
- If everyone in Detroit got together to stop littering in the street and to throw waste in the garbage, we wouldn't have a lot of trash in the street, and it would be the best thing to do to keep the City clean. If they could get rid of all the car jackers, thieves, drugs, bank robbers, murderers, etc., it would be a better city. We need more Detroiters who care about things and have a heart to do right. People need to pray for peace, joy, happiness, and love.
- I am sure that most police officers are decent hard-working citizens, but a few diminish this reputation. For instance, walking near the Renaissance Center in downtown in the late afternoon gives me the opportunity to see squads of officers resting on their behinds, astride their cycles. Meanwhile, cars are running lights, pedestrians cannot safely cross Jefferson, and I even watched a blind man trapped on the median for several light changes. I know that getting GM workers out of downtown is a high-priority crime prevention task, but at least earn your keep. Also, once when trying to cross from the center park at Grand Circus toward the west, a police officer in his car used his advanced technical skills to inform me (via the public address system in his car) that streets are for cars and not people. Well, as an avid walker, he wasn't telling me anything I didn't know about downtown. Crosswalks are unmarked, pedestrian signals exist only in the traffic flow direction (as if pedestrians don't walk both ways on one-way streets), and right turn on red has the right of way over walkers. Stop with all the talk about how much better this would be if we could just get people to live downtown. We're already downtown. Start seeing to our needs. More will follow. I do not want to hear what a great job City workers are doing. Do a good job and we'll notice, really.
- I own my home free and clear. I could have sold it many times and moved to the suburbs. However, I love Detroit, and I keep believing that in time things will get better. Every new candidate claims to promote better neighborhoods, except when the votes are over, it turns out to be the same old soup but in a new bowl. I'm just not excited about this election because it is the same type of mentality running for office again. I'll just skip voting.

- My complaint with City services are that we need better service from our postal system, such as more mailboxes and more services that can be provided at drive-thru. The service varies, depending on where you live in the City. There are no decent restaurants for families and no decent theaters. Also, it takes a full day to reach the Water Department. Most alleys not are clean and the boarded-up houses are an eyesore. We pay far too much for water and sewage services, the suburbs get a better deal.
- The City needs more youth jobs for after school.
- There seems to be a letdown in the jobs being done in City government, and that is from top to bottom. I am quite sure there is someone in charge of everyone, and when someone doesn't do his job someone else is not doing his or her job. We can have all the studies and surveys by the thousands, but until this is controlled or corrected, we are still out of the ballpark. Thank you.
- Although I am very elderly, I am not a shut-in. I bowl, golf, and visit two sons and friends, each in different parts of the City. I shop in and out of town, and with my wife go out to eat in restaurants. On nice days, I frequently take my black labrador for a walk. Along the way, my neighbors and I exchange greetings and the children run out to call the dog by name and pet her. But I do not venture on the street north of me, where crime is very evident, and has visited me and my neighbors.
- I wrote to the Mayor about the demolition of houses on my street. I really appreciate the timely manner in which it was handled. The neighborhood looks much better. I love the big trash day once a month. It enables people to keep their property much neater. We also have a new street and a nice light behind my garage. Thank you.
- Detroit needs open-air fresh food markets in the neighborhoods. Without access to wholesale fresh foods, we will never be very inviting to other people to come into our community. Detroit needs to focus more attention on domestic violence shelters, whose need results mostly from the dope trade. Such shelters help children at a critical time.
- I don't feel that it's our job to maintain vacant lots. Police presence is better than it used to be. Someone needs to stop the use of loud music coming from cars.
- There are illegal dumpings throughout the City and poor maintenance of vacant lots, which give us a terrible and trashy image. We need more learn-to-work programs for our youth. Economic empowerment of communities is sorely needed. A stop sign is needed at the 2600 block of Ewald Circle at Stoepel, which is a very dangerous intersection. The duck pond in Palmer Park needs decoy security. A dangerous building, at 3503 Electric, needs to be demolished.
- Detroit needs more flowers growing during spring and summer. Streets need to be cleaned at least once a month. I am embarrassed to have a reunion here in Detroit, with its vacant buildings and dirty streets and freeways littered with trash. I have lived in this area for 50 years and I have seen the beautiful Detroit. I can't volunteer for anything because of illness. I wish I could. Linwood Street looks a mess. I know the politicians see the same thing that I see.

- I'm displeased with the way the City of Detroit takes care of the trees (e.g., low limbs and dead trees) and the non-cleaning of City sewers. In my area, it has taken six years to partially remove a dead tree. The sewers have not been cleaned in 25 years. One sewer drain currently backs up every time it rains and then my neighbor has problems getting in her driveway.
- I did not know that the Fire Department had community programs. I'm especially concerned about empowerment zone monies to help maintain home repairs that were promised to homeowners. However, due to severe restrictions, most of us don't qualify.
- There's room for improvement overall.
- I have been a City of Detroit resident my entire life. I enjoy living here. However, I would like to see improvement in City services and the quality of life for residents in the community. There is a need for more opportunity and more resources available in the community, and also for more benefits to residents in the City.
- I think that Mayor Archer did a terrible job of running the City. In all the decisions that he has made, never once did he think about the City. Our schools have fallen apart, the neighborhoods are run down, and all he could think about was the casinos. It's a shame that the City of Detroit has a Mayor who cares only for himself. If you need some advice Mr. Mayor, I'd be happy to help out. I have some wonderful ideas for the City of Detroit.
- I like living in the City but get frustrated with the day-to-day hassles. For example, we needed to get a copy of an accident report for a driver who was at fault, to get paid the \$500 deductible. We went to police headquarters, at 1300 Beaubien, seven weeks after the accident but were not able to obtain the needed report. Then we went to the 8th precinct and one officer was helpful, although another officer was rude. We also attempted to call and talk to someone in records but the phone was always busy. This incident was not major but was a terrible inconvenience, especially trying to park near 1300 Beaubien. The bureaucracy is maddening.
- The City can become better and safer as soon as the people in the community learn how to truly share ideas with each other. There's no ground too high to climb, if we put our hearts and minds together.
- I love living in Detroit, it's far less expensive than in the suburbs. I do have some issues that I would like resolved, such as, repairing curbs and streets and the trimming of trees.
- As a 4th generation Detroit resident, I can say with optimism that Detroit has improved over the past eight years thanks to Mayor Archer and those who work with him, and I see a great future and revival for the City of Detroit. The most important problem areas to be resolved are: 1. Crime (still too high); 2. Security and safety for all residents and nonresidents (e.g., you still hear kids, seniors and businesses say they don't feel safe); 3. Improved employment for residents not nonresidents; and 4. Too many liquor stores, get rid of them.
- 1. Potholes are a big problem 2. Next time layout the survey form so that I can omit questions regarding services I have not used. 3. We need better lighting on major streets, especially in the downtown area.

- I wish we had the money to move out of Detroit. I'll just mention a few things that have happened since we've lived here. Our car was broken into. On another occasion, our tires were slashed. Our driver's side window was broken out, and one of our cars was stolen. We have neighbors that shoot off fireworks all summer long that are so loud it rattles things in our house, and when it comes at 4:00 a.m. it does wonders for your sleep, especially on a work night. However, no action is ever taken by the police. Last year they even had fireworks that would land on a roof and burn. Even the fireman next door couldn't get action from anyone to help us. My son was robbed in the hall of Cody High School, and we never got any help with this from police or school officials even though one of the criminals was identified by a teacher. It's too bad this paper is so small or I could give you a few other examples.
- 1. No, I haven't heard of the new 311 emergency phone number and I'm sure many other residents haven't. Why not send out notices to the public to inform every citizen of the City so they will know what's going on. 2. No, we never see an officer unless one rides through the neighborhood occasionally in their car, and never at night when protection is needed. 3. No, and I will never be able to volunteer because of a child with a disability that will be with me for life. Thank you.
- I called for EMS for my mother in 1990, because she was dying and they hung up on me. I had to call a private ambulance. When I called the Mayor Young's Office about this matter, they did nothing.
- I am thoroughly disgusted with the City's services, especially those of the Water Department. However, when you call any City office, you can never get an answer, which is very unprofessional. I wonder why we're paying taxes.
- I love Detroit. There isn't a city with as much beauty and splendor as this one. We just have a few areas that need to be addressed and readdressed, until the situation has been handled. If we stay committed to improving the gray areas, our City will be one to contend with, in the future.
- The main problem I have with this City is two-fold. First, you're not really safe in this City from crime. Secondly, there is a major problem with the fact that as soon as you leave this City, you can really tell that you left because every other city around Detroit takes care of things such as, cutting the grass, etc. That's sad, because we're bigger than any other city around here.
- I wish the City of Detroit would work to trim the branches of the trees that block the streetlights. Please stop blocking side streets when plowing snow from main streets. I wish the City would provide a service to help homeowners remove junk cars without having to pay for a tow truck.
- I love Detroit and the people. Things could be a little better but on the whole everyone tries to do their best.
- I would like to join or set up or assist in helping our City to become the most beautiful and active city. Citizens who have businesses in their homes should be able to occupy the empty buildings around the City. No building should be empty. I have a vision.

- I am an advanced master gardener, therefore, I am active in the Belle Isle Botanical Society, Detroit Garden Center, and the Master Gardener Association. Demolition and maintenance of City-owned vacant (dangerous) houses and vacant buildings are horrible. There is no excuse for this situation. I have been a homeowner in this City in excess of 45 years and the level and variety of services provided by the City during this time span has fallen.
- I am afraid to walk the streets during the day and evening. The lack of sufficient parking near retail outlets makes it difficult to shop in the City. I also find the type of retail shops I am looking for (e.g., high-end shops) in suburbia. There also appears to be a bit of a problem with certain City departments, e.g., the police department. The City is not in good shape.
- I didn't answer some questions because it takes neighborhoods to keep up a city. We have all types of people that don't do their duty. Some questions asked, I never had problems with, so that's my reason for not answering. This City's care of vacant lots is very poor.
- When the City paved one side of our street, it took them a month and a half to finish the other side of the street. Some of the paving material got into the drain and our street flooded. When the City repairs water mains, it messes up the streets and driveways, and workers never return to fix them. When the snow is plowed, it is put at the end of the street, so you can't see to get on or off the street. When the lights go out, they stay that way for months. When the City fixes the streets or paves them, the water gates and manhole covers are exposed for months.
- The City needs tree planting on a major scale but not by volunteer groups.
- I answered the best that I knew how.
- As a City of Detroit employee (DOT bus driver), I see a great need for all City services to be improved. I am tired of looking at dirty streets, dead animals, and abandoned buildings throughout the City. I would like to see transit police on buses day and night. Several DOT buses are roach infested and dirty. Several City streets are in need of repair desperately, especially Fort and Michigan Avenue.
- I think that the southwest area of Detroit, the "West Vernor area" from Dix to Patton Park, has been forgotten for a long time. I think our Police Department needs help here, and we need more stores to bring "Life Back Here".
- The Mayor has done a good job for the City, but much more has to be done. City government is too slow getting things done. I hope the next Mayor will be as good as the present one.
- I appreciate the good efforts being made to improve our City and your concern and interest in people's opinions.
- I thank you for sending me this 2001 citizen survey. I for one have enjoyed my stay in Detroit. We have had our ups and down but I would not trade our City for any other city. God bless our City.

- My church has a good outreach program. Numerous indoor and outdoor tent affairs have police, health, and other City services participating. This church is located in the Brightmoor area, where one can see both blighted homes and cleared lots. Perhaps, Detroit isn't the cleanest city, however, it isn't the worst. I have traveled north, east, south and west. I've seen worse during the past 12 months, and I've seen numerous improvements in Detroit.
- Next time, send out a survey regarding the utility companies, especially Detroit Edison.
- As a retired Detroit police officer with over 32 years of service, my views are slanted from a law enforcement outlook. I rode the DOT buses in the past, both in uniform and in plain clothes. Once, I was assaulted and other times I had to endure insults from the passengers. So, I make it a point to stay off the bus. I do not attend any City functions or recreational programs because I learned long ago that I wasn't wanted, when my four children were assaulted and driven from the building, and had to walk home after their bikes were stolen.
- God bless our government officials, including our President and our soon to be Mayor and his staff. Let's work together in unity of mind and heart. Let's forgive one another and love one another. God is love. God bless America, our home sweet home.
- Give people tickets for not keeping up their houses and for putting rubbish out three weeks ahead of time. Illegal parking and abandoned cars makes the streets look bad.
- Overall, I am very pleased to live in Detroit and expect it to become less maligned and to have a regensis. I'm sorry to lose our Mayor but I am hopeful about the front runners in this election. My neighborhood is much improved over the past six years.
- I would like to say more in person. The more taxes we pay, the less services we get.
- I hope that the information provided by this survey could be used to make the neighborhoods better, and that we can see the results. Thanks.
- We need to bring more stores back to Detroit. We need to rebuild downtown for shopping and provide at least three or four hours free parking.
- I recognize that the City's ability to provide services is based on the City's ability to fund these services. In a City with many older and poorer residents, the lack of community support and investment by most local businesses impacts the quality of City services and revenue. My experiences with the Police Department have been positive, and weekly and bulk trash pickup has been timely.
- As compared to other cities, the City of Detroit has a long way to go if it ever intends to be a world-class city. Not only does business need to be generated but also the neighborhoods must be revitalized and maintained. Without this, no matter what is created, there will be no one to patronize the businesses as many young people are leaving the City to go to surrounding areas that can provide the services that are needed.